

David Elmore

From: Roy Warren <Roy.Warren@sportengland.org>
Sent: 09 November 2020 13:21
To: Planning
Cc: David Elmore
Subject: Planning Application Ref: 6/2020/2581/FULL – Chancellors School, Pine Grove, Brookmans Park, Hatfield AL9 7BN

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For the attention of David Elmore

Dear Mr. Elmore

Planning Application Ref: 6/2020/2581/FULL – Chancellors School, Pine Grove, Brookmans Park, Hatfield AL9 7BN (SE Ref: PA/20/E/WH/56881)

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above application.

Summary: Sport England raises **no objection** to this application as a statutory consultee which is considered to broadly meet exception 3 of our adopted Playing Fields Policy and paragraph 97 of the NPPF.

Sport England - Statutory Role and Policy

It is understood that the proposal prejudices the use, or leads to the loss of use, of land being used as a playing field or has been used as a playing field in the last five years, as defined in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (Statutory Instrument 2015 No. 595). The consultation with Sport England is therefore a statutory requirement.

Sport England has considered the application in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (in particular Para. 97), and against its own playing fields policy, which states:

'Sport England will oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss of, or would prejudice the use of:

- all or any part of a playing field, or
- land which has been used as a playing field and remains undeveloped, or
- land allocated for use as a playing field

unless, in the judgement of Sport England, the development as a whole meets with one or more of five specific exceptions.' Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document can be viewed via the below link:

https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy

Assessment against Sport England Policy

In summary, the proposal involves the construction of a temporary grasscrete car park for a period of 3 years at Chancellors School to address temporary parking capacity issues at the school. The additional car

park and associated pedestrian footpath around the parking area would encroach onto the school's smaller playing field to the east of the site where a junior football pitch is marked out in the winter. A large proportion of the area proposed for the new parking area comprises an existing overspill car park which is fenced off from the playing field and a linear area along the northern perimeter of the playing field that is occupied by mature trees. These areas would be incapable of being used for forming a playing pitch or part of one and would accord with exception 3 of the above policy. Likewise the area of playing field immediately to the west of the existing overspill car park would be too small for accommodating a playing pitch or part of one. The car parking area would encroach southwards onto part of the playing field that could technically be used for accommodating part of a playing pitch. However, the extent of the encroachment is relatively limited, the existing football pitch and its minimum run off areas would not be affected and there would still be space to realign the football pitch from season to season to allow the most intensively used areas of the pitch to recover. The loss of this area would not therefore be considered to reduce the sporting capacity of the site.

Conclusion and Recommendation

In view of the above assessment, Sport England is satisfied that the proposed development broadly meets the intention of the following Sport England Policy exception:

3 - The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch, and does not result in the loss of, or inability to make use of any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins), a reduction in the size of the playing area of any playing pitch or the loss of any other sporting/ancillary facility on the site.

This being the case, I can confirm that Sport England **does not wish to raise an objection** to this application nor do we wish to recommend any conditions should planning consent be granted.

We would be grateful if you would advise us of the outcome of the application by sending us a copy of the decision notice.

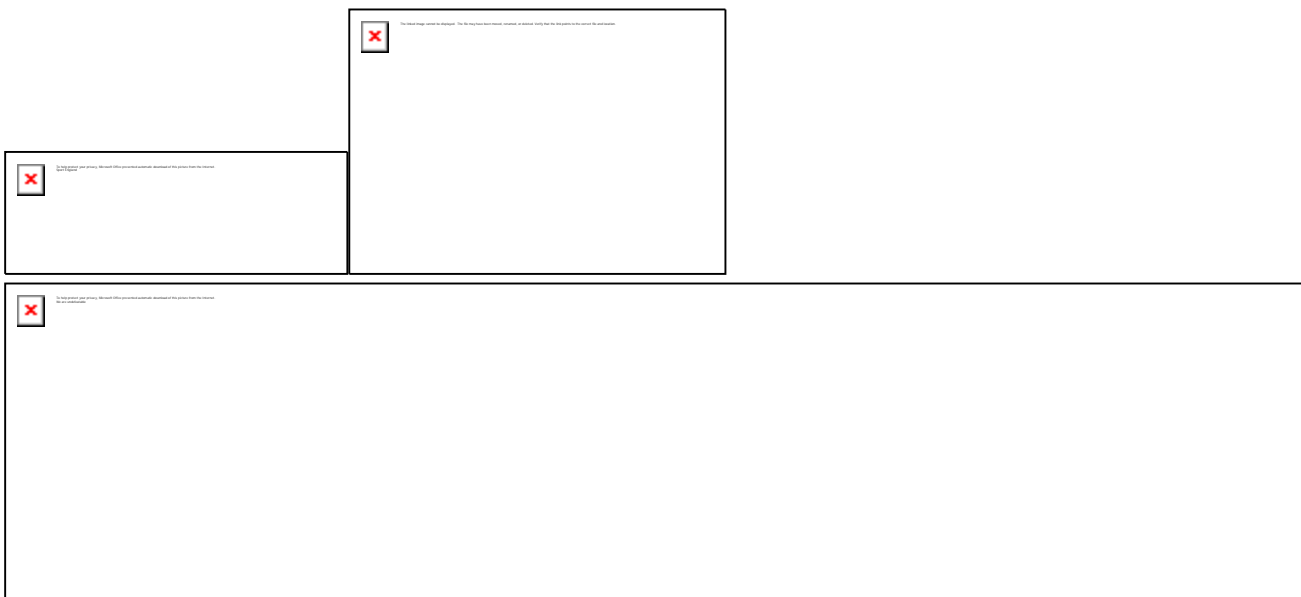
If you would like any further information or advice please contact me at the address below.

Yours sincerely,

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Planning Manager

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We have updated our Privacy Statement to reflect the recent changes to data protection law but rest assured, we will continue looking after your personal data just as carefully as we always have. Our Privacy Statement is published on our [website](#), and our Data Protection Officer can be contacted by emailing [Louise Hartley](#)

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